Senate File 2298 - Introduced

SENATE FILE 2298
BY COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

(SUCCESSOR TO SF 2153)

A BILL FOR

- 1 An Act establishing an AmeriCorps program for the economic
- 2 well-being and health of refugees, and including provisions
- 3 for contingent implementation.
- 4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

S.F. 2298

- 1 Section 1. Section 15H.5, subsection 5, paragraph a, Code 2 2016, is amended to read as follows:
- 3 a. Funding for the Iowa summer youth corps program, the Iowa
- 4 green corps program established pursuant to section 15H.6, and
- 5 the Iowa reading corps program established pursuant to section
- 6 15H.7, and the RefugeeRISE AmeriCorps program established
- 7 pursuant to section 15H.8, shall be obtained from private
- 8 sector, and local, state, and federal government sources, or
- 9 from other available funds credited to the community programs
- 10 account, which shall be created within the economic development
- ll authority under the authority of the commission. Moneys
- 12 available in the account for a fiscal year are appropriated to
- 13 the commission to be used for the programs. The commission
- 14 may establish an escrow account within the authority and
- 15 obligate moneys within that escrow account for tuition or
- 16 program payments to be made beyond the term of any fiscal year.
- 17 Notwithstanding section 12C.7, subsection 2, interest earned
- 18 on moneys in the community programs account shall be credited
- 19 to the account. Notwithstanding section 8.33, moneys in the
- 20 community programs account or escrow account shall not revert
- 21 to the general fund but shall remain available for expenditure
- 22 in future fiscal years.
- 23 Sec. 2. NEW SECTION. 15H.8 RefugeeRISE AmeriCorps program.
- 24 l. a. The Iowa commission on volunteer service, in
- 25 collaboration with the department of human services, shall
- 26 establish a Refugee Rebuild, Integrate, Serve, Empower
- 27 (RefugeeRISE) AmeriCorps program to increase community
- 28 integration and engagement for diverse refugee communities in
- 29 rural and urban areas across the state.
- 30 b. The commission, in collaboration with the department
- 31 of human services, may adopt rules pursuant to chapter 17A to
- 32 implement and administer this section.
- 33 2. The commission may use moneys in and lawfully available
- 34 to the community programs account created in section 15H.5 to
- 35 fund the program.

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S.F. 2298

- 3. The commission shall submit an annual report to the
 2 general assembly and the department of human services relating
 3 to the efficacy of the program.
- 4 Sec. 3. CONTINGENT IMPLEMENTATION. The Iowa commission on 5 volunteer services shall fully implement the provisions of this 6 Act contingent upon being appropriated necessary moneys by the 7 general assembly to support the RefugeeRISE Americorps program
- 8 as provided in this Act.
- 9 EXPLANATION
- The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.
- 12 This bill establishes the RefugeeRISE AmeriCorps program and 13 makes appropriations.
- 14 The bill requires the Iowa commission on volunteer service
- 15 (commission), in collaboration with the department of
- 16 human services (DHS), to establish a RefugeeRISE AmeriCorps
- 17 program to increase community integration and engagement for
- 18 diverse refugee communities in rural and urban areas across
- 19 the state. The commission may use moneys in and lawfully
- 20 available to the community programs account created within
- 21 the economic development authority (ECA) under the authority
- 22 of the commission to fund the program. The commission, in
- 23 collaboration with DHS, may adopt rules to implement and
- 24 administer the program and shall submit an annual report to
- 25 the general assembly and DHS relating to the efficacy of the
- 26 program.
- 27 The bill provides that the commission shall fully implement
- 28 the provisions of the bill contingent upon being appropriated
- 29 necessary moneys by the general assembly.